

Application No. 10/765,939
Attorney Docket No. 3313/1104PUS1
Response to Office Action dated 21 Apr 2008
Page 6 of 7

REMARKS

Claims 12-17, 19 and 20 are now present in this application.

The specification, abstract, and claim 12 have been amended, and claims 1-11 and 18 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC 102 and 103

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-16 and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim, U.S. Patent 6,118,653. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-16 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim, U.S. Patent 6,181,550. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Kim '653 in view of Nakajima et al., U.S. Patent 7,274,562. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Kim '550 in view of Nakajima et al., This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claim 18 to contain allowable subject matter. Without conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, but simply to expedite prosecution of this application, it is noted that claims 1-11 have been cancelled, and that limitations from objected-to but allowable claim 18 have been incorporated into independent claim 12. Accordingly, independent claim 12 and its dependent claims should be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/765,939
Attorney Docket No. 3313/1104PUS1
Response to Office Action dated 21 Apr 2008
Page 7 of 7

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Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

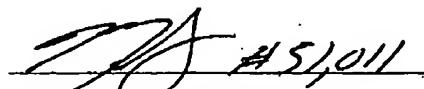
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Joe McKinney Muncy, Applicants' Attorney, at 703.621.7140 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3828 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; in particular, extension of time fees.

Date: July 21, 2008

Respectfully submitted,


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